

REMARKS

The current Amendment is being filed together with an RCE. This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 12, 2007.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended the language of independent claims 1 and 7 to clarify that the axial line and the optical axis extend in a thickness direction of the mobile terminal device. Prior to the amendment, claims 1 and 7 recited that the axial line and optical axis were disposed in a thickness direction of the mobile terminal device. However, the Examiner appears to have misconstrued that language in rejecting the claims based on Suso. Although Applicant disagrees with the breadth of interpretation given by the Examiner to the meaning of "being disposed in," Applicants submit that Suso does not disclose the device of newly amended claims 1 and 7. As recited in those claims, the "axial line" is "in parallel with a direction in which said two casings are overlapped" and the "optical axis" passes "through said lens and said image taking element." The claims further require that the "axial line" and "optical axis" are "substantially coincident." Finally, as amended, the claims now recite "said axial line and said optical axis extending in a thickness direction of said mobile terminal device." Those claimed aspects are neither taught, suggested, nor rendered obvious by any of Suso, Shimamura or Lee, taken alone or in combination.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-11 are patentable over the prior art of record.

The Examiner is urged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel at the number noted below if it will advance the prosecution of this application, or with any suggestion to resolve any condition that would impede allowance. In the event that any extension of time is required, Applicants petition for that extension of time required to make this response timely.

Kindly charge any additional fee, or credit any surplus, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 848075/0073. In the event that an extension of time is needed for entry of this Response that is not otherwise provided for, such extension of time is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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